

# General Contractor Reviews Work In County Building

## SAYS EDIFICE IS MARK OF PROGRESS

S. J. Tennant Points To Civilization's Advance

(EDITOR'S NOTE: S. J. Tennant, author of the foregoing article, is president and general manager of the Bay City Stone Co., which held the general contract for the erection of the new county building. He and his father, the late James H. Tennant, have built some of the largest and better known buildings in Bay City, including the city hall, the Michigan Central and Fox Marquette railway depots, the Presbyterian church, the city building, the new hospital addition, nurses' home, Lutheran children's home, etc. The Stone Co. began business here more than half a century ago.)

BY S. J. TENNANT  
Much of the progress of the world and its civilization had its beginning in, or its results from, building.

In the olden centuries pyramids rose, stone upon stone, to point their peaks into the Egyptian heavens. To Greece came the majestic temples of architectural splendor, to Rome the mammoth conduits of the Italian Mills.

From time's beginning man has been building—building into the earth, soaring into the clouds. Trading posts have been reared from wild and woolly country by a handful of pioneers to become cities of swarming millions.

Thus has civilization advanced, with building heading for it a path through the wilderness. As such progress came to the nation, so did it come to Bay county.

Meets Present Day Needs  
A county building that met adequately the more humble needs of 65 years ago, now no longer could do so, and this modern temple of government which is the new county building is the latest monument to our progress.

For more than 65 years the courthouse, as it was called, stood at the northwest corner of Center and Madison avenues, a reminder of a day when architecture hereabouts was not taken as seriously as it is today.

Awarded the general contract for the structure to replace it, and the contract for raising the old red brick building, we began in early October, 1932, to clear the site for the modern county building which stands there now.

Says Design Practical  
In leveling the old structure we were not too busy to note the fine white pine timbers which kept it together for those many years. They were in an excellent state of preservation and had not begun to show the tell-tale signs of decay.

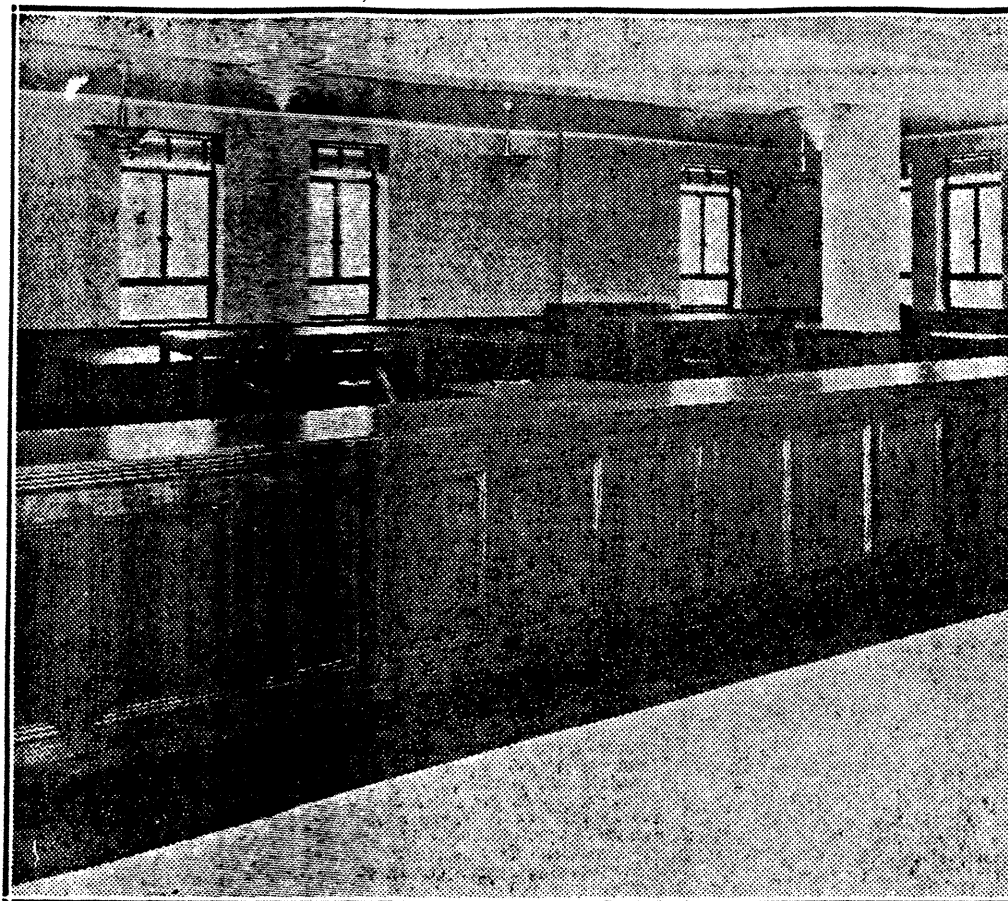
From our first study of the plans and specifications for the new building we reached these conclusions: That its design was practical. That the layout of office and other quarters in the building was logical; quarters were convenient, commodious.

That the building, exteriorly and interiorly, was beautiful in its simplicity. That it was rich without being gaudy.

That it was modern without being radical.

Wrecking operations were completed within 30 days and steam shovels were gnawing away for the bigger foundations necessary for this new building of nine stories.

## Here's Partial View of Clerk's Office



This is a partial view of the clerical space of the clerk's office in the new county building. Located at the northeast of the first floor corridor, this is the largest office in the eight-story structure, being 28 by 44 feet in size. Entrances to the clerk's private office, not shown in the picture, are at the extreme right. The picture was taken from the public space of the clerk's suite.

## Has Erected Many Jobs Here, Elsewhere



S. J. TENNANT

under way. Floor after floor, steel girder after steel girder, the building rose, the construction work being aided materially by the relatively mild temperatures that prevailed during the winter of 1932-33.

As the steel skeleton of the building grew upward, its granite base and limestone walls followed, each stone going to its designated place, as the right place into a jig-saw puzzle.

After only a comparatively few months the building began to take shape, a rough outline of the ultimate. Soon it was entirely enclosed, and the pounding of hammers, and the swish of the trowel, work on the interior, formed the familiar symphony of construction.

As work progressed, an average of 30 men were employed on general contract job alone. At different times, hundreds of others were at work under the mechanical and other contracts. No major accidents occurred, despite the precarious tasks of steel erectors.

Building of quality, results desired, particularly careful work on the interior of the building was necessary. Joseph C. Goddard, the architect, had conceived the building to its minutest detail.

The new county building is a building of quality. It is a credit to the county building committee—Mayor J. Harry Nelson, Leonard Hutton, John Ziegler, Jr., Louis Ott, and Merrill Jerrew; to the board of supervisors; to the other county officers, to the electorate of the county. Without the co-operation of all, including the clerk of the works, Otto C. Bernthal, the sub-contractors and tradesmen, it would not have been possible to attain the results we have.

Because of its many features, it was an exceptionally interesting building to erect, and now that it is finished we hope the people of Bay county will be as well pleased with it as we are.

## 1,400 POUNDS OF FURS ARE LANDED IN ALBERTA

Pilot Brings Load From Trappers' Posts; Reports Great Activity In North

EDMONTON, Alberta, March —(UP)—Furs valued at \$125,000, 47 bales of them, weighing about 1,400 pounds, were landed at the airport here by Pilot W. Leigh Brintnell in a big Fokker plane.

He had brought them from trappers' posts in the Northern Nahanni country, stopping on signal to pick up bales. He reported extraordinary trapping activity throughout the far north, due to increased fur prices.

## LIKES SCRIP

RAYMOND, Alberta, March —(UP)—This town, which issued \$20,000 worth of scrip money during the depression, liked it so well that, despite easier conditions, city officials are considering another issue in 1934.

While there are two elevators in the new Bay county building, only one will be used ordinarily.

## Checks Quality of Work on Building



OTTO C. BERNTHAL

## Editor Declares Isolation Is Fatal To Any Nation

CLEVELAND, March —(UP)—Statistical data and "cosmic precept" prove that neither America, nor any other nation can live alone, Oswald Garrison Villard, magazine editor, said in a lecture course address here.

Villard pointed out that, in his opinion, America could not isolate herself and live as a self-contained unit, as advocated by James W. Gerard, former ambassador to Germany, in his theory known as autarchy.

Social as well as economic reasons make the Gerardian belief impracticable, Villard stressed as his viewpoint.

## Horse Thief Society Is Feted In Connecticut

THOMPSONVILLE, Conn., March —(UP)—At a banquet commemorating the 11th anniversary of the Enfield Society for the Detection of Thieves and Robbers, table decorations were miniature horses, place cards rocking horses and favors small saw horses.

The society was formed for apprehension of horse thieves and the "chief pursuer" and members were to provide themselves with fast horses to be kept "in readiness for pursuit of thieves when called upon."

## Swedish American Line To Begin Regular Ship Service

STOCKHOLM, March —(UP)—Direct regular steamship service between Stockholm and Gdynia, Poland, will be inaugurated this spring by the Swedish American line, it was announced here.

## ARCHITECT'S AGENT EYES CONSTRUCTION

On Job To See That Details Are Carried Out

BY OTTO C. BERNTHAL

The clerk-of-the-works on a construction project, such as the new county building, is the official representative of the architect. Inasmuch as the architect holds the responsibility for the construction of the project, the work of informing the architect as the building progresses is the duty of his representative.

Duties of the clerk-of-the-works are manifold. His work starts from the time that the first shovel of dirt is excavated until the building is completed in major detail is turned over to its owner, a product finished to specifications. It is the duty of the clerk throughout the construction period to see to it that the specifications of the architect are fulfilled to the "nth" degree by the contractors; that no inferior materials are used; that no corners are cut; to avoid unnecessary delays and to complete the project during the time specified under the contract.

It is also the duty of the clerk to put his official approval, with the consent of the architect, on the various phases in the construction of the buildings. He must check the foundation before the superstructure is placed upon it; he must examine the superstructure before the stone masonry is started; in fact, no new phase of work can be taken up until the preceding project has been completed according to specification.

In addition to his work of supervising construction, in the sense that it cannot proceed without his consent, the clerk likewise has the task of ironing out difficulties that sometimes confront contractors in a large project. Often during the construction work, contractors find it impossible because of the existing circumstances to complete certain tasks according to the architect's plans. It is then that the clerk is called upon for suggestions, providing a way out of the difficulty.

## HUGE SUGAR CROP IN VERMONT IS SEEN

Preparations Are Made For Vast Tapping

NEW YORK, March —(UP)—Up in Vermont they are getting ready for the harvesting of the maple sugar crop. Preparations are being made for the tapping of more than 100,000 trees. More trees will be tapped than ever before, more sugar per acre will be produced, and the total crop is expected to average higher in quality than in any previous year.

A survey of the maple sugar industry, made by Arthur C. Bartlett for The Country Home, shows that the maple sugar industry in Vermont is better standardized and of higher average quality than its rivals.

Bartlett's statistics show that there is only enough pure maple sugar produced in an average year to supply half a tablespoonful for each man, woman and child in the United States. And a good part of the crop goes to the tobacco manufacturers for use in sweetening and flavoring cigarettes.

## Enters Henhouse To Find Sea Gulls, Crows With Hens

TREMONT, Me., March —(UP)—A truant officer, entering his henhouse on an extremely cold morning, found not only his hens but also: Five sea gulls, three crows, two partridges, one sheldrake, one white-winged coot.

## Truant Officer Is Fined By Student Body for Poking

GREAT FALLS, Mont., March —(UP)—Guy Palast, chief probation officer, whose job it is to round up boys and girls who play truant from school, parked his car too long in front of Great Falls High school, and was arrested, tried and fined by the student body.

## Superintendent of Construction Work



CHARLES ENGELHARDT.

Mr. Engelhardt is general superintendent of the Bay City Stone Co., which held the general contract on the new county building. He superintended the general construction work throughout the project, under orders of S. J. Tennant, president and general manager of the Stone Co.

Native Bay Cityan, Mr. Engelhardt has been on construction work for 20 years and for the past 17 years has been a superintendent. He lives at 206 Germania avenue.

## Files Divorce Complain of Enforced Walks, Baths

LOS ANGELES, March —(UP)—A four mile walk and a cold bath afterwards was the daily enforced routine of Mrs. Florine Louise Elliott, she complained in a divorce action against Royal Elliott. She endured it for six months and then filed the action when her husband would not relent in his Spartan treatments for her.

## Dog Gets Six Gold Teeth After Losing His 'Naturals'

RIVERSIDE, Cal., March —(UP)—Queen, a German shepherd dog, tried to catch a golf ball on the fly and broke out six of her upper incisors. Her master, Walter J. Meisner, attached to the army dental corps at March Field here, built her a bridge with six gold teeth, and Queen is happy again.

## Salt Lake Shores May Be Scene of Auto Speed Record

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah, March —(UP)—The flat, white salt beds on the western shore of Great

Salt Lake may be the next scene of a trial to break the world's automobile speed record. It became known that Sir Malcolm Campbell, present record holder, has been in correspondence with the Salt Lake Chamber of Commerce on the subject.

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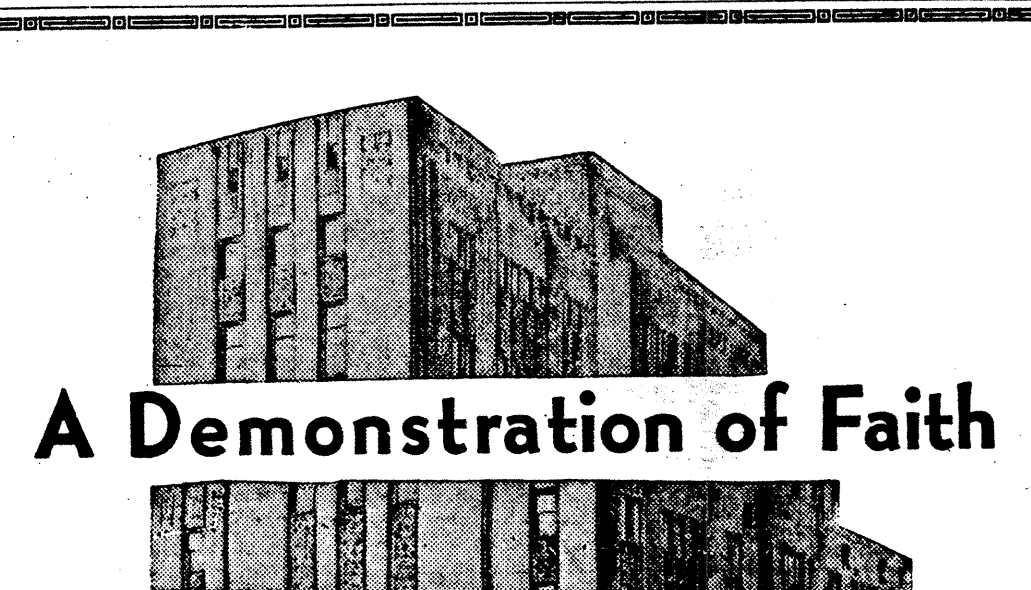
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THE same loyal spirit that prompted the building of Bay county's new court house prevails today in its public approval upon completion. Bay county is noted for its home-owners—approximately 87 percent of our citizens. During the past 44 years this building and loan association has invested all its monies in the building of Bay City.

OUR faith in Bay City is evidenced in the fact that today we stand ready to assist in financing home building and improving. Monies invested with this association are loaned to home owners on first real estate mortgages. Even through discouraging years, such as the past four, Building and Loan has demonstrated its security, safety and profitability to its member investors and borrowers alike.

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BAY COUNTY

Is fortunate in having such a beautiful and useful county building. We believe that this court house is something Bay county residents should point to with pride.

W. E. BERRY

G. H. KENNEDY

**B and COAL K**

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